

To the members of the Committee:

I am writing to express my deep concern around Bill 5429. I live in the neighborhood across the bridge from the Saugatuck train station in Westport. My street is located off of East Ferry Lane, where it dead ends. I grew up on this street myself and am raising my own family here.

To give you a little background on this area, originally East Ferry Lane was built to accommodate the ferry that moved goods across the river, hence the street's name. East Ferry Lane, is very narrow road, typical for a road built at the time. Also typical of the time, is the fact that some houses were built against the road, so the road can't be widened. East Ferry is not designed for high traffic. It can barely handle the traffic that our current housing density brings. Two cars can't pass one another, without one giving way. It is tricky business and there have been many near miss accidents. A school bus can't fit down East Ferry Lane to the end. Our neighborhood has a very large number of school aged children, but because there is no room for the bus to turn around, each day these children walk to the intersection of South Compo Road to catch the bus. Construction vehicles from even a small single family construction project, basically shuts down the ingress and egress of the street at the end. We are an active neighborhood and there is a near constant flow of pedestrian traffic. Seniors, children on bikes, families walking their dogs are a given at any time of day. Add to it the increase in traffic, due to more home deliveries and the situation has become even more precarious.

Drastically changing the zoning laws from a single- family neighborhood to a 15 units per acre would do serious harm to my neighborhood. I urge you to think about what this legislation would mean for neighborhoods like mine.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Nancy Bollo

6 Jackie Lane